Access to the trails:

Take Exit 16 off 93N to the stop sign. Turn left onto Mountain Road. Take the second right onto Shaker Road. The trailhead to the Vista Trail is in the southern former log yard on Shaker Road. The trailhead to the Upper Trail and Dancing Bear Trail can be found further north on Shaker Road. This is the main trailhead for the Oak Hill area.

The trails:

Hiking travel time: several hours, depending on

your route

Distance: about 7 miles total

The trail system is designed and cleared for hikers and experienced cross-country skiers. Beginner skiers should not attempt this trail system. The trails were cut during the summer of 1989 and include part of the skidder trails used to harvest the timber in 1988. Since this time, the Krupa Loop and the Dancing Bear Trail have been added providing additional interest to the hike. Trees have been cleared just below the granite ledge outcropping at the vista, affording a view of Mt. Kearsarge. Off the Dancing Bear Trail is a vista with a view of Mt. Kearsarge to the northwest, Ragged Mountain and Mt. Cardigan to the north.

The Way-to-go Trail leading to the Oak Hill fire tower in Loudon and a second connection to Krupa Loop have also been added. These trails were developed with the cooperation of the landowner and the Loudon Conservation Commission. The private road leading down from the Fire Tower is usually gated.

History:

Oak Hill is a unique area that has gone through many historical changes. In the 1800's, this area was mainly open pastureland. Networks of stone walls and stone cellars can still be found today. The forest used to be American chestnut trees, until the Asiatic blight killed them off in the 1920's. Today Oak Hill has an unusually high number of Chestnut saplings, a reminder of earlier times. This area is also home to one of Concord's largest white oak trees. This landmark

Oak has a diameter of 44.3 inches at breast height (4').

The trail system was color-coded in 2007. The Luti Loop, Ovenbird Scuttle, and Murray Bluff trails may also be accessed from Oak Hill Road.



Concord Conservation Commission 225-8515

Map 12

Concord Trail System

Oak Hill Trails



Concord Conservation Commission September 2010